(b) if so, what are the details thereof and what are Government's plans to save the cities from possible quake effect; and

(c) whether any guidelines has been laid down for the construction of earthquake proof buildings in such cities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) An accelerated Urban Earthquake Vulnerability Reduction Project has been taken up as a pilot project under the GOI-UNDP Disaster Risk Management Programme. The project covers 38 cities falling in seismic zones III, IV & V and having a population of more than five lakhs. The project aims at strengthening the capacity of communities, urban local bodies and administration for undertaking earthquake mitigation, preparedness and response measures. Of the 38 cities, 8 cities are in Zone IV (high risk) and 2 cities in Zone V (very high risk). The key components of the project are awareness generation, formulation of preparedness and response plan at the city level and community levels, establishment of a techno-legal regime to promote safe construction, training and capacity building of professionals and disaster management teams. Besides this pilot project, the Government has taken several steps to reduce the vulnerability of earthquake prone areas. These include preparation of model building byelaws and regulations for the guidance of States to ensure seismically safe construction, emphasis on retrofitting of lifeline buildings, capacity building of engineers and architects in seismically resistant designs and constructions.

(c) The Bureau of Indian Standards codes for earthquake resistant constructions are already in existence. A bilingual Earthquake Prepardness Guide in English and Hindi has been prepared on the basis of existing codes and good building practices and circulated to the State Governments for translation in regional languages and its dissemination among the people.

Establishment of Calamity Management Centre

4411. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to establish Calamity Management Centre on the pattern of those in USA;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) where the proposed centre will be established and by what time the centre is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. RAGUPATHY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Permission to raise funds by trusts/bodies

4412. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any reliable data regarding trusts/bodies empowered to raise funds for Tsunami hit victims;

(b) whether the prior permission of Charity Commissioner is necessary to raise such relief funds and if so, the tenure of validity of such permissions granted by the Commissioner;

(c) whether trusts or bodies registered under the Bombay Public Trust Act of 1950 can raise funds for sunami relief without securing a specific permission from the Charity Commissioner; and

(d) whether if due diligence is taken on applications received for permission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. RAGUPATHY): (a) to (d) The necessary information is being obtained from the concerned Ministries and the States.

Compensation to families of persons killed by bull in Delhi

4413. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state: